

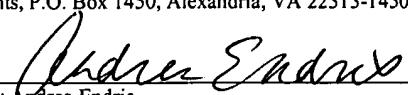


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NUGENT ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 10/728,594 Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN
Filed: DECEMBER 3, 2003 Docket: 14426.1USU1
Due Date: MARCH 3, 2004
Title: APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING AND METERING FLUID FLOW

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 3, 2004.

By: 
Name: Andrea Endris

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

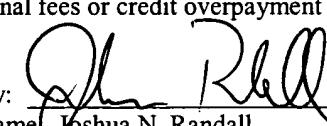
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Small entity status has been previously established
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 23 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Joshua N. Randall
Reg. No.: 50,719
JNR:ae



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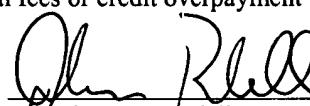
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S/N 10/728,594

PATENT

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By: Andrea Endris
Name: Andrea Endris

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

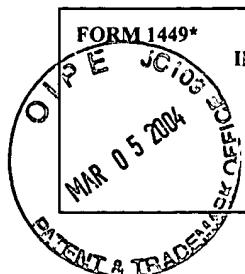
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: _____

Joshua N. Randall
Reg. No. 50,719
JNR:ae



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 14426.1USU1	Application Number: 10/728,594
		Applicant: NUGENT ET AL.	
		Filing Date: DECEMBER 3, 2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2,675,020	10/03/1949	Breitwieser			
	2,863,318	06/10/1954	Schroder			
	2,918,933	11/14/1952	Boitnott			
	3,685,786	08/22/1972	Woodson			
	3,724,503	04/03/1973	Cooke			
	4,484,479	11/27/1984	Eckhardt			
	4,651,572	03/24/1987	Albertz et al.			
	4,825,747	05/02/1989	Bardin et al.			
	4,993,269	02/19/1991	Guillaume et al.			
	5,326,468	07/05/1994	Cox			
	5,331,995	07/26/1994	Westfall et al.			
	5,487,405	01/30/1996	Skoglund			
	5,622,204	04/22/1997	Skoglund			
	5,672,832	09/30/1997	Cucci et al.			
	5,693,887	12/02/1997	Englund et al.			
	5,782,260	07/21/1998	Jacobs et al.			
	5,869,766	02/09/1999	Cucci et al.			
	6,152,168	11/28/2000	Ohmi et al.			
	6,339,963 B1	01/22/2002	Torkildsen			
	6,463,810 B1	10/15/2002	Liu			
	6,561,207	05/13/2003	Lowery et al.			
	6,564,824	05/20/2003	Lowery et al			
	6,578,435 B2	06/17/2003	Gould et al.			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 14426.1USU1	Application Number: 10/728,594
		Applicant: NUGENT ET AL.	
		Filing Date: DECEMBER 3, 2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						



EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	